



Attorney Docket: 381AS/44307C2
PATENT

3661
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DRS
ReA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: TOSHIMICHI MINOWA ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/820,533 Group Art Unit: 3661

Filed: MARCH 30, 2001 Examiner: Unknown

Title: AUTOMOTIVE CONTROL APPARATUS AND METHOD

RECEIVED

MAY 16 2001

TO 3600 MAIL ROOM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 15, 2001

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the claims prior to the examination of the application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓ Please cancel claims 1-15 and add the following new claims.

A1 16. (New) A method of controlling a vehicle, wherein when a driving force of the vehicle is changed from a driving force of a first running mode wherein a driving force of the vehicle is controlled according to a first target value determined from an accelerator pedal position to a driving force of a second running mode wherein a driving force of the vehicle